

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

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DELIVER TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

JULY 9, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION ITEMS

JAPANESE ELECTION: NEARLY COMPLETE RETURNS FROM SUNDAY'S ELECTION INDICATE THAT PRIME MINISTER TANAKA'S LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY LOST ITS CLEAR MAJORITY IN THE UPPER HOUSE OF THE DIET. WITH 126 OF THE 252 SEATS, THE PARTY COULD REGAIN A MAJORITY IF SOME OF THE INDEPENDENT WINNERS AFFILIATE WITH IT. NEVERTHELESS, THE ELECTION RESULT CONSTITUTES A SETBACK WHICH WILL MAKE TANAKA'S RIVALS IN THE PARTY MORE READY TO CHALLENGE HIM. FURTHERMORE, IT MAY INTRODUCE ELEMENTS OF UNCERTAINTY INTO JAPAN'S POLICY AND LEAD TO A PERIOD OF POLITICAL MANEUVERING.

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CANADIAN ELECTION: THE LIBERAL PARTY PULLED AN UPSET IN THE ELECTION YESTERDAY WHEN IT WON A MAJORITY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. THE VICTORY WAS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU, WHOSE AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN STYLE AND ENGAGING WIFE HELPED RESTORE HIS POPULARITY. A MAJORITY LIBERAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE WITHOUT PRESSURE FROM THE NATIONALISTIC NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHOSE LEADER, LEWIS, LOST HIS SEAT. THE CURRENT POLICY OF TRYING TO LESSEN CANADIAN DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S., HOWEVER, WILL STILL HAVE STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT.

ISRAELI NAVAL COMMANDO RAIDS AGAINST LEBANON: ACCORDING TO PRESS

DOS Review Completed.

DISPATCHES, THE ISRAELIS CARRIED OUT NAVAL COMMANDO RAIDS AGAINST THREE LEBANESE PORTS LAST EVENING, SINKING SEVERAL SHIPS IN EACH LOCATION. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF CASUALTIES AND THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THAT ALL THEIR TROOPS RETURNED SAFELY TO BASE.

REMAINS OF U.S. VICE CONSUL FOUND IN MEXICO: MEXICAN AUTHORITIES HAVE REPORTED THE DISCOVERY OF A BODY TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED AS THAT OF JOHN PATTERSON, THE VICE CONSUL IN HERMOSILLO WHO WAS KIDNAPED ON MARCH 22. A RING ON THE BODY BORE THE INITIALS OF PATTERSON AND HIS WIFE AND THE DATE OF THEIR MARRIAGE. U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN MEXICO CITY HAVE INFORMED THE PATTERSON FAMILY.

MEXICAN DEMARCHE RE CUBA: ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, MEXICAN FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA CALLED IN AMBASSADOR JOVA TO DISCUSS POLICY TOWARD CUBA AND ECHEVERRIA'S UPCOMING TRIP TO SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. RABASA SAID CUBA WOULD BE A PRIMARY SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION IN MOST OF THE COUNTRIES ECHEVERRIA WOULD BE VISITING (ECUADOR, PERU, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, AND VENEZUELA). HE SAID MEXICO UNDERSTANDS DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY BETWEEN COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT MOVE TO REESTABLISH BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA. ECHEVERRIA WANTED TO INFORM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THAT HE WOULD ENCOURAGE SUCH ACTION BY HIS HOSTS AND HE WOULD SEEK SUPPORT FOR CUBAN ATTENDANCE AT THE HEMISPHERIC MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AT BUENOS AIRES NEXT MARCH. ECHEVERRIA BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE U.S. INTEREST TO REVISE ITS CUBA POLICY BY LENDING SUPPORT TO THESE INITIATIVES AND ALSO BY TAKING STEPS TOWARD THE RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE HOPES THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL AT LEAST BEGIN TO MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION. RABASA ADDED THAT HE INTERPRETED CASTRO'S MORE TEMPERATE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE U.S. AND HIS RECENTLY STATED WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH ME (ON THE CONDITION THAT THE EMBARGO BE LIFTED) AS SIGNALS. HE SAID HE HOPED WE WOULD, IN TURN, SEND SOME SIGNALS WHICH WOULD BE CONDUCTIVE TO AN EVOLUTION OF THE SITUATION.

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR THREATENED: NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR SEVILLASACASA HAS RECEIVED A THREATENING NOTE ALLEGEDLY FROM THE SYMBIONESE LIBERATION ARMY. THE LETTER CHARGED FORMER PRESIDENT

GENERAL SOMOZA AND HIM AND OUR AMBASSADOR, TURNER SHELTON, WITH CRIMES ASSOCIATED WITH EXPLOITING THE NICARAGUAN POOR AND OPPOSING CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO . SECURITY PRECAUTIONS ARE BEING TIGHTENED AND THE FBI IS SEEKING FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE ORIGIN AND AUTHENTICITY OF THE LETTER.

ARGENTINA--NUCLEAR ENERGY: ARGENTINA'S NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM REFLECTS AN INTENT ULTIMATELY TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND FREEDOM FROM FOREIGN ENCUMBRANCES. THE SELECTION OF REACTOR TYPES EASILY ADAPTABLE TO PLUTONIUM PRODUCTION HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY MILITARY RECOMMENDATIONS. ARGENTINA HAS NOT SIGNED THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY, ALLEGEDLY TO KEEP ITS OPTION FOR DEVELOPING NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. ARGENTINA'S FIRST REACTOR, BUILT BY A GERMAN FIRM, HAS RECENTLY BECOME OPERATIONAL, AND ANOTHER REACTOR IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY A CANADIAN FIRM. THE GOVERNMENT HAS CALLED ON ARGENTINE FIRMS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY AND FOR THE REACTIVATION OF A PILOT CHEMICAL SEPARATION PLANT FOR THE PROCESSING OF SPENT FUEL FROM RESEARCH REACTORS. ARGENTINA HAS TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY AND ALSO HAS THE BENEFIT OF SUBSTANTIAL NATURAL URANIUM RESERVES.

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